

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MUNICH 02921 01 OF 02 201127Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
ACDA-12 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AF-10 /102 W
-----001393 201137Z /10

R 201111Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0497
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 MUNICH 02921

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, GW
SUBJECT: CSU CONGRESS MARKS GERMAN UNITY; STRAUSS KEEPS
HEAT ON FDP

1. INTRO AND SUMMARY. THE 1978 CONVENTION OF BAVARIA'S
CHRISTIAN SOCIAL UNION, HELD IN MUNICH JUNE 16 AND 17, WAS
TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH GERMAN UNITY DAY AND THE 25TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1953 UPRISING IN EAST BERLIN. CSU
CHAIRMAN STRAUSS REEMPHASIZED HIS PARTY'S COMMITMENT TO
GERMAN UNITY BUT RENOUNCED ANY USE OF FORCE TO ACHIEVE THIS
GOAL. HE CALLED ON THE KREMLIN TO REALIZE THAT 70 MILLION
GERMAN FRIENDS ARE WORTH MORE THAN 17 MILLION HOSTAGES.
ON THE FRG DOMESTIC POLITICAL FRONT, STRAUSS ADOPTED A
CONCILIATORY POSTURE TOWARD HIS CDU SISTER PARTY WHILE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MUNICH 02921 01 OF 02 201127Z

STEPPING UP HIS ATTACKS ON THE FDP. HE ALSO HINTED
THAT CSU WOULD PRESS FOR A CSU FOURTH PARTY EFFORT IF
HESSE VOTING RESULTS IN OCTOBER WERE FAVORABLE TO CON-
TINUED SPD/FDP COALITIONS THERE AND IN BONN. END SUMMARY.

2. CSU AND GERMAN UNITY.
THE THEME, "UNITY, JUSTICE AND FREEDOM," AND DATE, GERMAN

UNITY DAY, OF THIS YEAR'S CSU CONGRESS WERE DESIGNED TO REEMPHASIZE THE PARTY'S COMMITMENT TO GERMAN UNITY. IN ADDRESS TO LARGE GATHERING ON MUNICH'S MARIENPLATZ EVENING OF JUNE 16, CSU CHAIRMAN FRANZ JOSEF STRAUSS REJECTED THE POST-WWII DIVISION OF GERMANY AND IN VIRTUALLY SAME BREATH RENOUNCED ANY USE OF FORCE TO ACHIEVE REUNIFICATION. WHENEVER IN THE PAST THE GERMANS AND THE RUSSIANS WERE ENEMIES, BOTH PEOPLES SUFFERED, SAID STRAUSS. PERIODS WHEN THEY ENJOYED FRIENDLY RELATIONS WERE, IN CONTRAST, TIMES OF PROSPERITY FOR BOTH. THEREFORE A CHANGE IN THE KREMLIN'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE GERMANS WOULD BE USEFUL FOR BOTH PEOPLES. IN BOTH HIS SPEECH AT MARIENPLATZ RALLY AND HIS KEYNOTE ADDRESS TO PARTY DELEGATES JUNE 17, STRAUSS CALLED ON THE KREMLIN TO UNDERSTAND ONCE AND FOR ALL THAT 70 MILLION FRIENDS ARE WORTH MORE THAN 17 MILLION HOSTAGES.

3. PRESSURE ON THE FDP.

IN HIS ADDRESS TO CONVENTION DELEGATES, STRAUSS OPENLY CRITICIZED THE FDP, TERMING IT A "SMALL PARTY WHICH INFLUENCES GERMAN POLITICS IN AN OMINOUS MANNER." CSU, SAID STRAUSS, IS NOT TRYING TO PUSH THE FDP OFF THE FRG POLITICAL STAGE. THE POINT IS THAT WHAT THE PARTY'S LABEL SAYS SHOULD CORRESPOND WITH THE CONTENTS OF THE BOTTLE. IN A MOCKING TONE, STRAUSS RIDICULED THE FDP'S SLOGAN IN THE 1976 BUNDESTAG ELECTION
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MUNICH 02921 01 OF 02 201127Z

CAMPAIGN "THE FOUR WHO COUNT" (I.E. THEN FDP MINISTERS GENSCHER, FRIDERICH, MAIHOFFER AND ERTL). FRIDERICH, STRAUSS NOTED, HAS DISAPPEARED INTO PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND MAIHOFFER WAS FORCED TO RESIGN. MEANWHILE, GENSCHER ALLEGEDLY HAD TO SPEND HOURS TALKING ERTL INTO REMAINING IN THE CABINET. GENSCHER IS NOT, IN STRAUSS' VIEW, A PERSON WHO COULD IMPLEMENT CSU FOREIGN POLICY AIMS, ESPECIALLY IN THE AREAS OF OSTPOLITIK AND AFRICAN POLICY.

4. CDU, CSU AND POSSIBLE FOURTH PARTY EFFORT.

STRAUSS DECLARED THERE WOULD BE NO RPT NO "SNIPERS' WAR" BETWEEN CDU AND CSU BUT RATHER A COMPETITION FOR AN UNPREJUDICED EXAMINATION OF ALL POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS FOR DISPENSING WITH "THIS GHOST FROM BONN" (I.E. THE SPD/FDP COALITION). IN CLEAR, ALBEIT INDIRECT, REFERENCE TO CSU FOURTH PARTY EFFORT, STRAUSS DECLARED THAT CDU AND CSU WOULD NOT RPT NOT ACCEPT SITUATION IN WHICH THE STRONGEST POLITICAL FORCE IN THE BUNDESTAG (E.G. CDU/CSU) IS DENIED, BY MEANS OF TACTICAL ELECTORAL GIMMICKS AND FALSE PARTY CONSTELLATIONS, AN OPPORTUNITY TO GOVERN. STRAUSS WAS CAREFUL THROUGHOUT CONVENTION TO TAKE CONCILIATORY LINE TOWARD CDU. AT ONE POINT HE STATED THAT

CSU HAS NO RPT NO DESIRE TO DAMAGE ITS SISTER PARTY BUT
INSTEAD WANTS TO MAKE IT THE LEADING FORCE IN FRG
POLITICS. STRAUSS NEVERTHELESS MANAGED TO AVOID MENTIONIN
OPPOSITION LEADER KOHL'S NAME ONCE IN THE COURSE OF HIS
TWO HOUR SPEECH TO CONVENTION DELEGATES.

5. AFRICA.

ALL EUROPEANS, SAID STRAUSS, AND ESPECIALLY THE BRITISH,
SHOULD RECOGNIZE AND SUPPORT THE "INTERNAL
SOLUTION" IN RHODESIA. STRAUSS ALSO CALLED ON WESTERN
EUROPEANS TO PROTECT THEIR INTERESTS IN AFRICA AND TO
SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF "ONE MAN, ONE VOTE" AS WELL AS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MUNICH 02921 02 OF 02 201133Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AF-10 /102 W
-----001448 201137Z /10

R 201111Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0498
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USBERLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 MUNICH 02921

APPROPRIATE GUARANTEES OF THE RIGHTS AND PROPERTY OF
WHITE MINORITIES. TURNING TO THE ROLE OF THE U.S.,
STRAUSS CALLED ON AMERICANS "FINALLY TO OPEN THEIR EYES
TO WHAT IS REALLY HAPPENING IN AFRICA."

6. STRAUSS AND BAVARIAN POLITICS.

ALTHOUGH HE DEVOTED ONLY FIVE MINUTES OF HIS TWO HOUR
CONVENTION ADDRESS TO BAVARIA, STRAUSS IMPLICITLY
REAFFIRMED HIS DECISION TO SEEK THE BAVARIAN MINISTER

PRESIDENCY AND TO LEAD THE PARTY IN THE OCTOBER 15 LAND-TAG ELECTIONS HERE. HE JUSTIFIED HIS DECISION NOT TO SPEND MORE TIME ON BAVARIAN ISSUES BY STATING HIS INTENTION TO CONTINUE THE BASIC POLITICAL GOALS PURSUED BY OUTGOING CSU MINPRESIDENT GOPPEL.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MUNICH 02921 02 OF 02 201133Z

7. COMMENT.

STRAUSS' SALLIES AGAINST THE FDP ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE ATTITUDE HE ADOPTED TOWARD THAT PARTY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 1976 BUNDESTAG ELECTIONS. HE FEELS THAT EVENTS HAVE CONFIRMED THE ESSENTIAL CORRECTNESS OF HIS STRATEGY OF CONFRONTATION WITH THE FDP, AND HE CLEARLY HOPES THAT THE FRG VOTERS WILL ELIMINATE THE FDP AS THE FORCE WHICH EXERCISES THE BALANCE OF POWER IN FRG POLITICS. IF, HOWEVER, THE CDU SHOULD REMAIN THE STRONGEST SINGLE PARTY IN HESSE NEXT OCTOBER AND YET BE DENIED THE OPPORTUNITY TO GOVERN, STRAUSS SEEMS PREPARED TO DO EVERYTHING WITHIN HIS POWER TO PROMOTE A CSU FOURTH PARTY EFFORT. WE CONSIDER STRAUSS' ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE CONVENTION DELEGATES THAT HE HAS ASKED GEROLD TANDLER TO REMAIN CSU SEC GEN UNTIL 1980 AS A FURTHER INDICATION THAT HE IS QUITE SERIOUS ABOUT A FOURTH PARTY EFFORT IF THIS SHOULD, IN HIS JUDGMENT, PROVE NECESSARY.

8. A TOP STRAUSS AIDE HAS TOLD CONGEN THAT THE TWO-PERSON CHINESE DELEGATION ATTENDING THE CSU CONVENTION HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER STRAUSS' WORDS ABOUT RUSSIAN-GERMAN FRIENDSHIP. BETTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL PARTIES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MUNICH02921
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780256-0830
Format: TEL
From: MUNICH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780640/aaaabiqk.tel
Line Count: 205
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8db34685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2285394
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSU CONGRESS MARKS GERMAN UNITY; STRAUSS KEEPS HEAT ON FDP
TAGS: PINT, GE, CSU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8db34685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014